

IN THE CLAIMS:

The following is a complete listing of the claims, and replaces all earlier version and listings.

1. - 21. (canceled).

22. (new): A method of partitioning a computer program situated on a first processing site, the program containing subprograms able to transfer information, and the program comprising:

a step of automatic determination, for at least one of the subprograms, of data representing the transfer of at least part of the information processed by that subprogram, said automatic determination step comprising:

a substep of modifying the source code of the computer program, during which substep are inserted in source code of at least one subprogram of the computer program:

first lines of instructions making it possible, when they are executed, to obtain and store a reference of a subprogram calling that subprogram; and

second lines of instructions making it possible, when they are executed, to obtain and store the total of the data representing the information received or transferred by that subprogram;

a substep of compiling the modified code and generating a modified program; and

a substep of obtaining the representative data by means of at least one execution of the modified program;

and a step of allocating the subprogram to a second processing site according to the data.

23. (new): A method according to Claim 22, wherein said substep of modifying the source code includes replacing, in source code of at least one subprogram of the computer program, calls to low-level functions by lines of instructions making it possible, when they are executed, to obtain and store if the data transferred by said subprogram are situated on a distant storage site.

24. (new): A method according to Claim 22, wherein the representative data are obtained statistically, after at least two executions of the modified computer program.

25. (new): A method according to Claim 22, wherein the data represent the quantity of the part of the information processed by the subprogram.

26. (new): A method according to Claim 22, wherein the data represent the transfer time of the part of the information processed by the subprogram.

27. (new): A method according to Claim 22, wherein the data represent characteristics of a transmission channel between the first processing site and the second processing site

28. (new): A method according to Claim 27, wherein the data representing the transmission channel are chosen from among latency, bandwidth, error rate, mean load

on the transmission channel and at least one value dependent on a protocol for communicating the part of the information between the first processing site and the second processing site.

29. (new): A method according to Claim 22, wherein said allocation step is performed so as to minimize, by analysis of the representative data, the transfer of information between the first processing site and the second processing site

30. (new): A device for partitioning a computer program situated on a first processing site, the program containing subprograms able to transfer information, comprising:

means of automatic determination, for at least one of the subprograms, of data representing the transfer of at least part of the information processed by that subprogram, said automatic determination means including:

means for modifying the source code of the computer program, said means being adapted to insert in source code of at least one sub-program of the computer program:

first lines of instructions making it possible, when executed, to obtain and store a reference of a subprogram calling that subprogram; and

second lines of instructions making it possible, when executed, to obtain and store the total of the data representing the information received or transferred by that subprogram;

means for compiling the modified code and generating a modified program; and

means adapted to obtain the representative data by at least one execution of the modified program; and

means for allocating the subprogram to a second processing site according to the data.

31. (new): A partitioning device according to Claim 30, wherein said means of modifying the source code replace, in the source code of at least one subprogram of the computer program, calls to low-level functions by lines of instructions making it possible, when executed, to obtain and store if the data transferred by that subprogram are stored on a distant storage site.

32. (new): A partitioning device according to Claim 30, wherein said means adapted to obtain the representative data operate statistically, after at least two executions of the modified computer program.

33. (new): A partitioning device according to Claim 30, said device being adapted to consider data representing the quantity of the part of the information processed by the subprogram.

34. (new): A partitioning device according to Claim 30, said device being adapted to consider data representing the transfer time for the part of the information processed by the subprogram.

35. (new): A partitioning device according to Claim 30, said device being adapted to consider data representing characteristics of a transmission channel between the first processing site and the second processing site.

36. (new): A partitioning device according to Claim 35, said device being adapted to consider data representing the transmission channel chosen from among latency, passband, error rate, mean load on the transmission channel and at least one value dependent on a protocol for communicating the part of the information between the first processing site and the second processing site.

37. (new): A partitioning device according to Claim 30, wherein said allocation means are adapted to minimize, by analysis of the representative data, the transfer of information between the first processing site and the second processing site.

38. (new): A partitioning device according to Claim 30, wherein said automatic determination and allocation means are incorporated in:

a central unit,

a read only memory containing instructions relating to implementation of the partitioning; and

a random access memory containing registers adapted to record variables modified during the execution of the instructions.

39. (new): A computer, comprising means adapted to implement the method according to any one of Claims 22 to 29.

40. (new): A computer, comprising a device according to any one of Claims 30 to 38.

41. (new): An information storage medium which can be read by a computer or by a microprocessor storing instructions of a computer program, making it possible to implement a partitioning method according to any one of Claims 22 to 29.

42. (new): The information storage medium according to Claim 41, said storage medium being a removable one.